

# Japan-Barbados Business Mission

## Water Management & Resilience

On March 12–13, the Embassy of Japan in association with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure Transport and Tourism (MLIT), the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Cabinet Office (Disaster Management) of Japan organized a Japanese business mission to Barbados. The two-day mission featured the Japan-Barbados Business Forum, followed by site visits and meetings with key stakeholders, providing participants with opportunities to explore business collaborations and gain insights into local projects and investment opportunities.

On March 12, the Embassy of Japan in Barbados, in collaboration with Invest Barbados and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), hosted the inaugural Japan-Barbados Business Forum under the theme “Water Management & Resilience” at the Sandals Royal Conference Center.

The forum provided a dynamic platform for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), along with 15 Japanese companies specializing in water management, recycling, and infrastructure to explore opportunities for developing sustainable and innovative solutions to Barbados’ most pressing environmental and development challenges.

Among those in attendance were the Honourable Gregory Nicholls, Minister of Home Affairs and Information, and the Honourable Indar A. Weir, M.P., Minister of Public and Private Investment, along with senior government officials, representatives from international organizations, academia, and the private sector.



L-R: His Excellency Mr. MIYASAKA Yusuke, Ambassador of Japan, the Honourable Indar A. Weir, M.P., Minister of Public and Private Investment (center) with representatives from the MLIT, METI, JICA and participating companies.



His Excellency Mr. MIYASAKA Yusuke, Ambassador of Japan, (second left) the Honourable Gregory Nicholls, Minister of Home Affairs (center) with representatives from Invest Barbados and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

In their remarks, both ministers underscored the importance of the initiative and expressed appreciation for Japan's longstanding partnership with Barbados, particularly in disaster risk management and resilience-building efforts. They also commended the initiative, noting that the forum was a meaningful step toward strengthening bilateral cooperation and fostering innovation in key sectors.

The event featured presentations from participating Japanese companies as well as local agencies, offering insights into cutting-edge technologies and opportunities for collaboration. Attendees also had the opportunity to engage directly with company representatives at their exhibition booths. The forum concluded with a networking reception, enabling participants to build connections, exchange ideas, and explore potential partnerships aimed at advancing sustainable development in Barbados.



Presentation by Japanese company, OYO Corporation, one of many presentations showcasing the innovative technologies from Japanese companies.



The forum brought together over 80 attendees from various sectors.



Attendees visiting the exhibition booths.



Attendees sharing a light moment during the closing reception of the Japan-Barbados Business Forum.  
Photo credit: Reco Moore

On March 13, the delegation met with officials from the Barbados Water Authority and CDEMA to gain further insights into the challenges Barbados and the region faces, present their technologies, and explore areas of collaboration. They also visited the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub and the Richard Haynes Boardwalk to review existing projects focused on disaster response and infrastructure development. Additionally, the delegation toured various cultural sites such as the Foursquare Rum Distillery and Heritage Park to learn more about Barbados' history, industries and culture.



The Japanese delegation, accompanied by Mr. MATSUMURA Naoki, the resident Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Expert on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management for CDEMA, touring the CDEMA office.



Japanese technology demonstration during a meeting with the Barbados Water Authority.



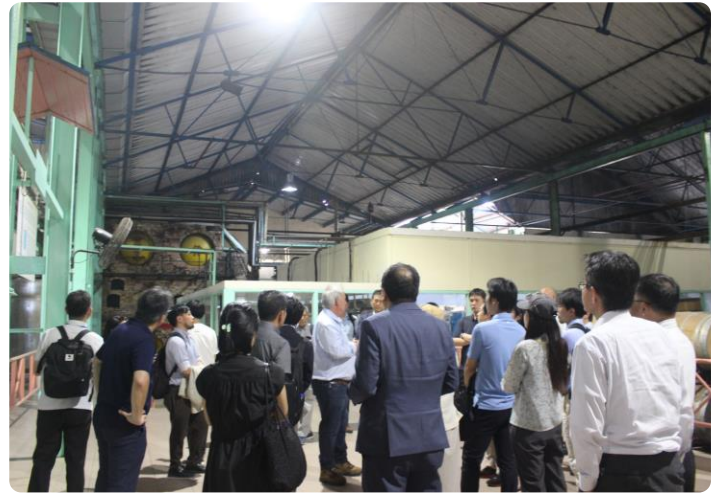
The visiting Japanese delegation, guided by Inter-American Development Bank staff, visiting the Richard Haynes Boardwalk, a product of Coastal Infrastructure Programme which was jointly funded by the Government of Barbados and the Inter-American Development Bank.



Japanese delegation touring the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub, guided by staff from United Nations World Food Programme.



Ambassador MIYASAKA and the delegation visiting the future site of the Japan-funded Centre of Excellence (Caribbean Emergency Operations Centre) which aims to enhance the region's disaster response capacity.



The delegation during a tour guided by Master Distiller & Master Blender, Mr. Richard Seale, at the Foursquare Rum Distillery and Heritage Park.